benefiting from afforestation activities upto 1988-89.

**Statement**

*Number of drought prone districts, central assistance released to States and expenditure incurred on the programme (including States matching share).*

(Rs. in lakhs)

| State | No. of drought prone Distt. | Expenditure incurred under the programme, since inception upto 1988-89 | Central funds released since inception upto 1988-89 |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| Andhra Pradesh | 8 | 12887.97 | 6950.19 |
| Bihar | 5 | 7749.64 | 3672.12 |
| Gujarat | 8 | 9510.72 | 4691.05 |
| Haryana | 1 | 2131.07 | 1135·38 |
| Jammu & Kashmir | 2 | 2354·98 | 1016.87 |
| Karnataka | 11 | 10479.98 | 5541.85 |
| Madhya Pradesh | 6 | 7815.74 | 3874.37 |
| Maharashtra | 12 | 11416.21 | 4927.72 |
| Orissa | 4 | 4891.80 | 2521.19 |
| Rajasthan | 8 | 9718·73 | 5426.16 |
| Tamil Nadu | 7 | 6865.49 | 3384.48 |
| Uttar Pradesh | 16 | 11739.63 | 5932.46 |
| West Bengal | 3 | 4783.36 | 2487.08 |
| TOTAL | 91 | 102345.32 | 51560.92 |

**Assistance to farmers under Special thrust Programmes**

389. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the nature of the assistance provided to farmers under the Special Thrust Programmes for various crops like rice, wheat, maize, gram ; arhar ; oilseeds etc. and what are the results obtained as a result thereof ; and

(b) what is the methodology of selecting the farmers for assistance and also for providing the same to them especially to the poor and the marginal farmers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF

AGRICULTURE AND COOPERATION IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHYAM LAL YADAV) : (a) and (b) Financial assistance is being provided to the farmers under the various Special Thrust Programmes being implemented in various States for increasing the production of crops like rice wheat, maize, gram arhar and oilseeds etc. The details are given below :—

| | Programme | Nature of assistance provided to farmers |
|---|---|---|
| 1. | Special Foodgrains Production Programme of Rice. | Subsidy on distribution of seeds; fertilisers; plant protection chemicals and equipment; farm implements; field demonstrations, trainings; pumpsets and construction of field channels/improvement of drainage ; opening of new input sale centres and construction/renovation of input godowns. |
| 2. | Special Foodgrains Production Programme of Wheat. | Financial assistance for seed distribution; use of zinc sulphate; seed treatment and weed control. |
| 3. | Special Foodgrains Production Programme of Maize. | Financial assistance for seed distribution and weed control. |
| 5. | Special Foodgrains Production Programme of Gram & Arhar. | Financial assistance for plant protection chemicals and distribution of seed mini-kits at concessional rates. |
| 5. | Oilseeds Production Thrust Programme. | Financial assistance on plant protection chemicals and equipments; field demonstration; improved farm implements and supply of gypsum/pyrites. |

The above mentioned programmes will supplement the efforts of the State Governments to achieve the targets of production of food grains and oil seeds.

As regards selection of farmers' the State Governments have been advised to give preference to small and marginal farmers/scheduled castes and scheduled tribe farmees.

**Recommendations of Sugar Wage Board**

390. SHRI ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE :

SHRI KAILASH PATI MISHRA :

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the recommendations made by the Sugar Wage Board in respect of minimum wage, D.A. rate guaranteed minimum benefit, retention allowance fringe, benefits etc. ;

(b) the response to each of these recommendations from various State Governments and Central Ministries ; and

(c) the steps being taken to grant interim relief till Government come to a decision on the above recommendations?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI RADHAKRISHAN MALAVIYA): (a) and (b) Recommendations of the Sugar Wage Board and the response thereon received from State Governments & Central Ministries are under active consideration.

(c) There is no proposal to grant any further interim relief.